

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum type washing machine comprising:
 - an outer case;
 - a tub in the outer case having a drain hole at a lowest portion, and an overflow hole at a predetermined position of an upper portion;
 - a drum rotatably mounted in the tub;
 - a driving motor for transmission of power for rotating the drum through a rotation shaft connected to the drum;
 - a filter case vertically mounted at a front portion of the outer case to be exposed to an outside of the washing machine such that a user directly accesses the filter case, wherein the filter case pivots on a lower end thereof hinged on the outer case, toward the outside of the washing machine;
 - a drain pipe connected between the drain hole in the tub and the filter case configured to drain water from an inside of the tub toward the filter case;
 - a drain valve mounted to the drain pipe, wherein the drain valve controls a drainage of water from the tub and a supply of the water drained from the tub to the filter case through the drain pipe;
 - a drain filter disposed between a drain inlet and a drain outlet in the filter case, wherein the filter case accommodates contains the drain filter therein and the drain filter pivots along with the filter case toward the outside of the washing machine such that the user directly takes the filter out of the filter case; and
 - a drain hose connected to the drain outlet in the filter case for draining water from the filter case to an outside of the washing machine.
2. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case is an injection molding of a material different, and separate from the outer case.

3. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case is mounted on the middle of a front thereof.

4. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case is mounted on one of opposite sides of the front thereof.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drain filter is mounted such that a lowest point of the drain filter is positioned at a point higher than a residual water level in a drain path.

7. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case has a top end positioned at a height at least 70 cm from a bottom of the washing machine.

8. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case is mounted such that the top end thereof is positioned on an inside of the door so that the filter case is not opened in a state the door is not opened.

9. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the filter case has a handle for opening the filter case, and wherein the door covers the handle of the filter case when the door is closed, such that the user is unable to access the handle to open the filter case while the washing machine is operated.

10. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drain filter is a structure including a net having meshes.

11. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 10, wherein the drain filter includes a bail for taking out the filter.

12. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the bail is hinged to a top end portion of the drain filter.

13. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising filter case detecting means on the door, or the outer case, for detecting whether the filter case is mounted or not.

14. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter case detecting means is a microswitch for detecting whether the filter case is mounted or not as the microswitch is turned on/off depending on whether the filter case is positioned at a right position or not.

15. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter case detecting means is an optical sensor for detecting whether the filter case is positioned at a right position or not depending on whether a light reaches from a light emission part to a light reception part or not.

16. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising detecting means in the filter case for detecting whether the drain filter is mounted or not.

17. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the drain filter detecting means is a microswitch for detecting whether the drain filter is mounted or not as the microswitch is turned on/off depending on whether the bail of the drain filter is positioned at a right position or not.

18. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the drain filter detecting means is an optical sensor for detecting whether the filter is mounted or not depending on whether a light reaches from a light emission part to a light reception part or not.

19. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a filter case lock switch assembly mounted on the outer case at a side of the filter case, or in an inside space of the outer case for unlocking the filter case interlocked with the filter case detecting means.

20. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 19, wherein the filter case lock switch assembly includes a solenoid, and a plunger for moving back and forth depending on application of power to the solenoid, to lock/unlock the filter case.

21. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an elastic member for automatic returning of the filter case.

22. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 21, wherein the elastic member is a tension spring mounted between one side of the filter case and a fixing portion on an inside of the outer case for providing a returning force in an opening or closing direction with respect to the filter case.

23. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 21, wherein the elastic member is a torsion spring mounted on a hinge portion at a lower end of the filter case for providing a returning force in an opening or closing direction with respect to the filter case.

24. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drain pipe connected to the drain inlet of the filter case, and the drain hose connected to the drain outlet in the filter case includes bellows which extend and contract following rotation of the filter case.

25. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case has a residual water outlet in the vicinity of the lowest point thereof for draining residual water, with a residual water drain plug provided thereto for selective opening/closing.

26. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising locking means at one side of the filter case for maintaining a locked state of the filter case.

27. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein the locking means includes; a hook at the filter case, and a hook holding piece mounted separately at the outer case, or inside of the outer case in correspondence to the hook.

28. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a first overflow hose connected between a tub side overflow hole at a predetermined position above the drain hole of the tub and the filter case; and a second overflow hose connected to a filter case side overflow hole in an upper portion of the filter case, having one end mounted so as to pass through a bottom, or a rear wall of the outer case and position at a point lower than the filter case side overflow hole.

29. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein the second overflow hose connected to a filter case side overflow hole in an upper portion of the filter case includes bellows which extend and contract following rotation of the filter case.

30. (Previously Presented) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case is projected toward the outside of the washing machine from a front surface of the outer case.

31. (Original) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a drain pump in a flow passage of the drain hose for forced draining.

32. (New) The drum type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter case pivots forward to the outside of the washing machine when the door is opened.